Agreement between IOC and Khadani Group

†2044. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an agreement has been signed by Indian Oil Corporation with Khadani Group for import facilities;

(b) if so, the details of the amount to be paid by Indian Oil Corporation under the agreement, facility-wise; and

(c) the duration of the agreement and need of the agreement and what extra benefit will accrue from this agreement with this very institution?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL) has signed a port services agreement with M/s. Gujarat Adani Port Ltd., for handling crude oil at Mundra Port.

(b) IOCL would make payment to M/s. Gujarat Adani Port Ltd for (i) fixed charges for SPM system and transfer pipeline, (ii) variable charges, (iii) one time lease charges for developed land for putting up crude oil terminal facilities, (iv) sub-lease rent for the developed land and (v) water charges.

(c) The agreement is valid up to 16.02.2031. IOCL has executed the agreement with M/s. Gujarat Adani Port Ltd., the developer of Mundra Port, to receive 6 million tonnes per annum additional requirement of crude oil for the expanded capacity of its Panipat refinery.

New petrol pumps in Assam

2045. SHRI DWIJENDRA NATH SHARMAH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of new petrol pump dealerships proposed to be set up in Assam during the Tenth Five Year Plan, location-wise;

(b) the details of funds granted for the same; and

(c) the steps taken by Government in this direction?

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) to (c) Apart from the Special Scheme for allotment of retail outlet (petrol pump) dealerships and LPG distributorships to the widows/next of kin of Defence personnel killed in action in 'OP Vijay' (Kargil) and under the scheme of discretionary quota of the Government for allotment of dealerships/distributorships to certain categories of people on genuine compassionate grounds and in deserving cases, retail outlet dealerships for different locations in the country, including those in the State of Assam, are set up by the oil marketing companies after selection of dealers through a laid down process and out of the Marketing Plans of the Oil Industry for such dealerships. There is no co-relation between the Five Year Plans and the Marketing Plans of the Oil Industry. After the dismentling of the Administered Pricing Mechanism in the petroleum sector with effect from 1.4.2002, the job of selection of dealers/ distributors of petroleum products will be undertaken by the oil marketing companies themselves. In view of above and also in view of the fact that the process of allotment has to undergo a number of stages like selection of dealers as per policy guidelines, various approvals, etc., it may not be possible to indicate the time frame by which new retail outlet dealerships are likely to be allotted in the State of Assam.

Removal of LPG from taxation ambit

2046. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry has sent a proposal to remove LPG outside the ambit of taxation by States to the Union Government.

(b) whether the Ministry has any plan to declare LNG in the list of 'declared goods' so as to achieve its objective;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) by when, the LNG policy is going to be brought before Parliament for its approval?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) No, Sir.